

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00001 011057Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 SY-05 /073 W

-----011116Z 046413 /14

P 011000Z JAN 77

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5554

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0001

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS

SUBJ: ATTEMPTED BOMBING IN CAPE TOWN DEPARTMENT STORES

SUMMARY: TWO CAPE TOWN DEPARTMENT STORES WERE SCENE OF PETROL BOMBING LATE AFTERNOON DECEMBER 31. THERE WERE NO RPT NO INJURIES AND DAMAGE REPORTED SLIGHT. POLICE REPORTEDLY BELIEVE AT LEAST ONE EFFORT WAS WORK OF AMATEURS. END SUMMARY.

1. A "PETROL" BOMB (A BOTTLE FILLED WITH GASOLINE) EXPLODED ON GROUND FLOOR OF WOOLWORTHS DEPARTMENT STORE IN DOWNTOWN CAPE TOWN AT 2:45 P.M. DEC. 31. WHILE CAUSING SOME PANIC AMONG LARGE CROWD OF SHOPPERS, THERE WERE NO RPT NO INJURIES REPORTED AND ONLY "SLIGHT" PROPERTY DAMAGE. SOMEWHAT LATER, SIMILAR BOMB EXPLODED AT OK BAZAARS DEPARTMENT STORE IN PLEIN STREET. EXPLOSION OCCURRED IN OPEN FLOOR SPACE AND RESULTED IN VIRTUALLY NO RPT NO DAMAGE.

2. COMMENT: POLICE AUTHORITIES HAVE TOLD ONE OF OUR JOURNALIST SOURCES THAT BOMB AT OK BAZAARS WAS THROWN THROUGH OPEN DOOR AND THAT IT WAS "DEFINITELY" WORK OF AMATEURS. THEY ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00001 011057Z

NOT CERTAIN HOW THE BOMB AT WOOLWORTHS WAS INTRODUCED. THIS IS FIRST KNOWN ATTEMPT AT BOMBING IN DOWNTOWN AREA IN CAPE TOWN FOLLOWING EARLIER BOMBING ATTEMPT AT CARLTON CENTRE IN JOHANNESBURG DEC. 7 (JOHANNESBURG 2211). WHILE IT MAY WELL HAVE BEEN WORK OF "AMATEURS" FACT THAT TWO SEPARATE ATTEMPTS WERE MADE MAKES IT MORE LIKELY THAT IT WAS POLITICALLY MOTIVATED RATHER THAN WORK OF DERANGED PUBLICITY-SEEKING

INDIVIDUAL. END COMMENT.

3. BLACK AND COLORED TOWNSHIPS REMAINED QUIET OVER
NEW YEARS EVE. IN GUGULETU, MUNICIPAL VEHICLE SENT EARLY
MORNING JAN. 1 TO PICK UP SERVICE WORKERS WAS STONED AND THERE
WAS REPORTED ATTEMPT TO BURN CHURCH IN COLORED TOWN-
SHIP OF ELSIES RIVER. NO OTHER INCIDENTS REPORTED AS OF
NOON JAN. 1.
WHITE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOMBING, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAPET00001
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770001-0701
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770187/aaaacxqo.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f3e9e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3676137
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ATTEMPTED BOMBING IN CAPE TOWN DEPARTMENT STORES SUMMARY: TWO CAPE TOWN DEPARTMENT STORES WERE SCENE OF PETROL BOMBING LATE AFTERNOON DECEMBER 31. T HERE WERE NO
TAGS: PINS, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f3e9e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009